

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA

Feast of the Finding of the Holy Cross

May 3, 2026

**(Page numbers are for Western Rite Service Book and St. Ambrose Hymnal)**

## MATINS

The Trisagion Prayers 34  
Versicle, Response & Venite 11  
Psalm: 113, 124  
Lesson: I Samuel 2:1b – 10  
Versicle & Response\*

Benedictus  
Resurrection Gospel (stand)  
Kyrie eleison  
Lord's Prayer  
Prayers & Benediction

\*Officiant: In thy Resurrection, O Christ, alleluia.  
People: Let heaven and earth rejoice, alleluia.

## THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the Chalice for Holy Communion, but everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy.

**Hymn: 304**  
Preparation  
Introit  
Kyrie & Gloria: 85  
Collect of the Day  
Lesson & **Hymn 244**  
Epistle & Alleluia  
**Sequence Hymn 103**  
Holy Gospel  
Sermon  
Nicene Creed 45

Litany  
Offertory Hymns: Paschal Canon & **159**  
Secret & Sursum Corda 88  
Sanctus 89  
Canon of the Mass 89  
Lord's Prayer and Fraction 92  
Agnus Dei 93  
Communion Hymns: Paschal Communion  
Dismissal and Blessing 95  
Regina Coeli (Black Missal 215)  
**Hymn: 122**

**COLLECT** O God, who to those that go astray dost show the light of Thy truth, that they may return to the path of justice: grant that all who are enrolled in the Christian faith, may both spurn all that is hostile to that name, and follow after what is fitting to it. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth

**LESSON:** Acts 12:1-17 Brethren: About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After

he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting." As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, "You are out of your mind!" But she insisted that it was so. They said, "It is his angel." Meanwhile Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed. He motioned to them with his hand to be silent, and described for them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he added, "Tell this to James and to the believers." Then he left and went to another place.

**EPISTLE: I Peter 2: 11-19** Dearly beloved, I beseech you, as strangers and pilgrims, to refrain yourselves from carnal desires, which war against the soul, having your conversation good among the Gentiles: that whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by the good works which they shall behold in you, glorify God in the day of visitation. Be ye subject therefore to every human creature for God's sake: whether it be to the king as excelling, or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of the good: for so is the will of God, that by doing well you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: as free, and not as making liberty a cloak for malice, but as the servants of God. Honor all men: love the brotherhood: fear God: honor the king. Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. For this is thankworthy before God: in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**HOLY GOSPEL: John 16:16-22** At that time Jesus said to His disciples: A little while, and now you shall not see Me: and again a little while, and you shall see Me: because I go to the Father. Then some of His disciples said one to another: What is this that He saith to us: A little while, and you shall not see Me: and again a little while, and you shall see Me, and, Because I go to the Father? They said therefore: What is this that He saith, A little while? We know not

what He speaketh. And Jesus knew that they had a mind to ask Him. And He said to them: Of this do you inquire among yourselves, because I said: A little while, and you shall not see Me: and again a little while, and you shall see Me? Amen, amen, I say to you, that you shall lament and weep, but the world shall rejoice: and you shall be made sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman, when she is in labor, hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but when she hath brought forth the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. So also you now indeed have sorrow: but I will see you again and your heart shall rejoice: and your joy no man shall take from you.

**SECRET** Grant, O Lord, by these Mysteries, that checking our earthly longings, we may learn to love heavenly things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth

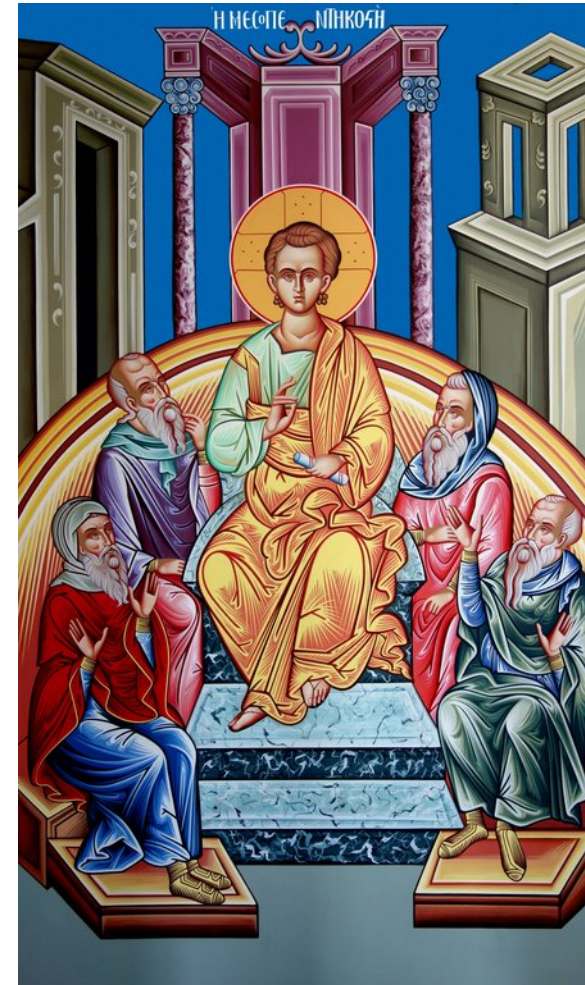
**POSTCOMMUNION** - May the Sacraments which we have received, we beseech Thee, O Lord, renew us with spiritual refreshment and defend us with bodily help. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth . . .

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND MEETINGS

**Wednesday, May 6** Mid-Pentecost Liturgy 6pm followed by Potluck & Program  
**Thursday, May 7** Jesus Prayer 7pm  
**Saturday, May 9** Vespers: 4:30pm followed by Confession  
**Sunday, May 10** V Sunday of Pascha Adult Class 9am Matins 9:45am  
Divine Liturgy 10am

**Mid-Pentecost (Cover Icon)** Wed May 6<sup>th</sup> celebrates the midpoint between the Feasts of Pascha and Pentecost. Specifically, it falls on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of Pascha. At the **Feast of Mid-Pentecost** a Small Blessing of the Waters is traditionally performed. We will bless Holy Water and distribute it. Please bring your own container.

**Everyone is invited to Lakyn's Graduation Party at Saint Michael's, on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 4pm. It is an open house so everyone can come and go as they please.**



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